

RESPONSE

The present application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 10, 2004. Claims 1, 3-8, 10-15, 17-22, and 24-62 are presented for examination. Claims 1, 6-8, 13-15, 20-22, 27-32, 36, 39, 51, 54, 57, and 60-62 are in independent form. Claims 1, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28-32, 36, 39, 51, 54 and 57 have been amended. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Office Action states that: Claims 1, 3-5, 8, 10-12, 15, 17-19, 22, 24-26, and 29-59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,092,100 ("Berstis"), claims 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, and 28 are rejected under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berstis in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,546,388 ("Edlund"), and claims 60-62 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berstis in combination with U.S. Patent 6,615,237 (Kyne). Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent claims 1, 6-8, 13-15, 20-22, 27-32, 36, 39, 51, 54, 57, and 60-62 together with the claims dependent therefrom, are patentably distinct from the cited art for at least the following reasons.

In regard to independent claims 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28, and 60-62, Applicant submits herewith his Declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.131 for antedating both the Edlund patent (which has an effective U.S. filing date of January 14, 2000) and the Kyne patent (which has an effective U.S. filing date of February 4, 2000). This Declaration, and the corroborating documentary evidence attached thereto, establishes that the Applicant conceived the invention corresponding to the above claims prior to January 14, 2000 (and thus prior to February 4, 2000), and thereafter reasonably, diligently reduced the invention to practice by the May 23, 2000 filing of the subject application in the United States Patent

and Trademark Office. Consequently, the Edlund and Kyne patents are not prior art to the claimed invention, and the rejections relying upon these patents are rendered moot.¹

Accordingly, Applicant requests that claims 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28 and 60-62 be allowed.

In regard to claims 1, 3-5, 8, 10-12, 15, 17-19, 22, 24-26, and 29-59, Applicants submits the following comments.

Applicant understands Berstis as disclosing a method for resolving an incorrect entry of a URL. Berstis teaches that, if a user enters a URL that cannot be recognized, a determination of the correct URL is made based on a "fuzzy" detection scheme. The fuzzy detection scheme truncates the incorrect entry by eliminating characters therefrom, and then compares the truncated entry (i.e., segments of characters

¹ Alternatively, Applicant traverses the Section 103 rejections for the following reasons. First, in regard to the rejection under the combination of Berstis and Edlund, Edlund is completely silent on (1) receiving a user input, (2) recognizing that user input to be a resource (or object) identity signifier, and (3) finding a likely single intended target resource based on the recognized resource (or object) identity signifier. Any feedback in Edlund is restricted to discovery searching – again, Edlund fails to recognize the input as a signifier. Thus, Edlund is simply not relevant to the claimed invention. Moreover, Applicant disagrees with the position in the Office Action that one of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to combine Berstis and Edlund. There is no teaching or suggestion in these references that would motivate those skilled in the art to replace the technique of ranking based on a degree of matching of a candidate URL with an inputted URL, as disclosed in Berstis, with a technique of ranking based on popularity (or the number of clicks on a hyperlink), as disclosed in Edlund. In fact, such a modification may thwart the purported operation of the Berstis system, and consequently, the combined system of Berstis and Edlund, as proposed by the Office Action, does not appear to have a reasonable likelihood of successfully working. Accordingly, claims 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28 are patentable over the combination of Berstis and Edlund. Second, in regard to the rejection under the combination of Berstis and Kyne, Kyne teaches away from using a search engine (without any feedback), and treats the entry as a last resort expected to be unreliable without editorial input (see col. 3, lines 34-35 and col. 8, lines 36-41, of Kyne). Moreover, Kyne does not teach or suggest the use of any feedback. For at least these reasons, claims 60-62 are patentable over the combination of Berstis and Kyne.

from the incorrect entry) with URL entries in a lexicon of server IP names. A match is determined if a URL entry satisfies a predetermined threshold.

In particular, the Office Action relies on the embodiment of Fig. 5 of Berstis (col. 7, lines 3-24) to equate the lexicon of MRU names as the required “feedback information.” In this embodiment, the fuzzy logic program is at the target server, not the client (see col. 5, lines 61 et seq.) Essentially, the client recognizes the IP address of the URL of the target server, and the link between the client and the target server is established. However, the target server cannot resolve the latter portion of the URL, like a file name. The stated goal of the fuzzy logic is to try to match the unresolvable URL to a prior used name, in this instance, the MRU name list on the server. The IP address is stripped from the URL at the server, and the remaining portion of the URL is compared to those on the MRU name list. The names may be those most recently used, or those most recently used “to respond to an HTTP request” from the connected client. These latter MRU names appear to be the URLs at the target server associated with the client's prior HTTP requests. While not stated in the Office Action, Berstis also discloses that a list of candidate URLs is returned to the client if no match can be found (col. 7, lines 25-31). The user is prompted to select one of the listed URLs, and if selected, the browser is launched to the selected URL (col. 7, lines 31-36).

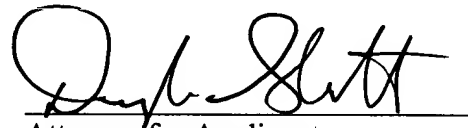
Even if the list of MRU names was held to constitute the required “feedback information,” which Applicant does not concede and reserves the right to later contest, Applicant submits that Berstis (as well as the other cited art) is wholly silent regarding the feature of “learning from database information via a learning system, wherein the learning provides distinct weight to multi-user feedback,” as recited in amended claim 1. Similar

“learning” steps or “learning” means, as the case may be, are recited in amended independent claims 8, 15, 22, 29-32, 36, 39, 51, 54, and 57. That is, there is no teaching or suggestion in Berstis that there is *any* distinction between any of the MRU names (weighted or otherwise), or that there is any “learning” by Berstis’s fuzzy logic system from the MRU list.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 1, 3-5, 8, 10-12, 15, 17-19, 22, 24-26, and 29-59 are patentable over the cited art, and respectfully request their allowance.

Applicant’s undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Douglas Sharrott', written over a horizontal line.

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